

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 181114Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1581

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 7543

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM BYROADE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

REF: STATE 193875

1. DURING MY PHONE CONVERSATION WITH BHUTTO ON AUGUST 16TH, HE THANKED ME FOR YOUR MESSAGE ON THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP WHICH I HAD SENT HIM EARLIER IN THE DAY. HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE MESSAGE WAS NOT DEFINITIVE, HE DEEPLY APPRECIATED THAT BOTH YOU AND THE PRESIDENT WERE AWARE OF HIS THOUGHTS ON THIS MATTER. I WAS MYSELF PLEASED WITH THE MESSAGE AND BELIEVE THAT, COMING WHEN IT DID, IT WAS HELPFUL IN REASSURING BHUTTO ABOUT THE VALUE TO US OF OUR CLOSE RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HIS OWN EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT THEM. I'M MOST GRATEFUL THAT DESPITE YOUR MANY PREOCCUPATIONS YOU WERE ABLE TO GET IT TO BHUTTO WHEN IT WOULD DO THE MOST GOOD.

2. I CONTINUE TO EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE HE HAS BEEN PLEASED WITH THE PERSONAL ATTENTION YOU HAVE GIVEN TO HIS CONCERNS, BHUTTO WILL STILL BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IF PAKISTAN IS FINALLY OMITTED FROM THE ITINERARY OF THE PRESIDENT'S CHINA TRIP. THIS DISAPPOINTMENT, AND WITH IT HIS FEELING THAT PAKISTAN HAS IN EFFECT BEEN VETOED BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S (TO HIM UNDERSTANDABLE) UNWILLINGNESS TO STOP

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IN INDIA, WILL BE INTENSIFIED IF THE PRESIDENT VISITS A

NUMBER OF OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES DURING HIS TOUR.

3. IF THE DECISION NOT TO VISIT INDIA AND PAKISTAN IS CONFIRMED--AND GIVEN THE VOLATILITY OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SUBCONTINENT I CAN APPRECIATE THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO FINALIZE IT AT THIS EARLY STAGE--I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT YOU GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO A PERSONAL LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO BHUTTO ON THE MATTER. SUCH A LETTER WOULD BE A NATURAL FOLLOW-UP TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL MESSAGE WHICH WAS SO WELL RECEIVED.

4. I THINK BHUTTO WOULD VALUE SUCH A MESSAGE AS A WARM AND COURTEOUS GESTURE EVIDENCING THE CONTINUING CLOSE RELATIONSHIP HE FEELS HE ENJOYS WITH THE PRESIDENT. TO BE EFFECTIVE, IT SHOULD BE SENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE WHITE HOUSE HAS DECIDED ON A FIRM ITINERARY AND AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE OF ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. ASIDE FROM EXPRESSING THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL DISAPPOINTMENT AT BEING UNABLE TO RETURN BHUTTO'S VISIT OF THIS FEBRUARY AND HIS HOPE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT PAKISTAN SOME TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE, SUCH A LETTER COULD HELPFULLY INCLUDE A REAFFIRMATION OF THE CONTINUING CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND THE US. I WOULD OF COURSE PERSONALLY HAND THE MESSAGE TO BHUTTO AND PASS TO HIM ANY ADDITIONAL WORD WE MIGHT WANT TO CONVEY AT THAT TIME.  
BYROADE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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